

“The Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace”



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 28:8-9, 1-2, 7**

The Lord / is their strength,\*  
and He is the saving refuge of His a- / nointed.  
Save Your people, and bless Your in- / heritance;\*  
shepherd them also, and bear them up for- / ever.  
To You I will cry, O / Lord my Rock:\*  
do not be si- / lent to me,  
lest, if You are si- / lent to me,\*  
I become like those who go down / to the pit.  
Hear the voice of my supplications when I / cry to You,\*  
when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctu- / ary.  
The Lord is my strength / and my shield:\*  
my heart trusted in Him, and / I am helped.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Romans 6:4**

“Therefore, we were buried with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

**7** READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord of all power and might, the Author and Giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

**9** PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

**10** SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK

**All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall**

TLH 369, LSB 562  
Lazarus Spengler



- 1. All mankind fell in Adam's fall,  
One common sin infects them all;  
From sire to son the bane descends,  
And over all the curse impends.
- 2. Through all man's powers corruption creeps  
And him in dreadful bondage keeps;  
In guilt he draws his infant breath  
And reaps its fruits of woe and death.
- 3. As by one man all mankind fell  
And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,  
So by one Man, who took our place,  
We all received the gift of grace.
- 4. We thank Thee, Christ; new life is ours,  
New light, new hope, new strength,  
new powers: May grace our every way attend  
Until we reach our journey's end!

**1** BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**2** SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED  
I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our  
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died  
and was buried. He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the  
dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at  
the right hand of God, the Father  
Almighty. From thence He will come to  
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
Christian church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
resurrection of the body, and the life  
everlasting. Amen.

**3** PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER  
Our Father, who art in  
heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it  
is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily  
bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who  
trespass against us;  
and lead us not into  
temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and  
the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

**4** PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

*Morning.* I thank You, my  
heavenly Father, through Jesus  
Christ, Your dear Son, that You  
have kept me this night from all  
harm and danger; and I pray that  
You would keep me this day also  
from sin and every evil, that all my  
doings and life may please You.  
For into Your hands I commend  
myself, my body and soul, and all  
things. Let Your holy angel be with  
me, that the evil foe may have no  
power over me. Amen.

*Evening.* I thank you, my  
heavenly Father, through Jesus  
Christ, Your dear Son, that You  
have graciously kept me this day;  
and I pray that You would forgive  
me all my sins where I have done  
wrong, and graciously keep me this  
night. For into Your hands, I  
commend myself, my body and  
soul, and all things. Let Your holy  
angel be with me, that the evil foe  
may have no power over me. Amen.

THEME OF THE WEEK: **The Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace**

God has reconciled sinners to himself through His Son's atoning blood. How surprisingly wonderful! God sets His own standards for righteous actions and what it takes to atone for shameful transgressions. It's not up to us and what we think or feel to be right. This is good. We are confused enough as it is. Leave spiritual and moral speculations to the world. Christians are content to listen and learn from God's comforting and instructing Word, the same Word combined with water in Baptism which gives us a new birth into knowing, desiring, and doing the works God finds pleasing. God be praised! His way is sufficient for saving faith and daily life.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 5:20-26 Don't be Angry**

Anger is one of the most pervasive sins in the Church. Why are so many Christians angry? This lesson gives us a real test for our faith. Jesus tells us clearly, "don't be angry." Anger itself is bad enough, but it leads to worse things. Bad thoughts. Bad words. Bad actions. Finally, if left untreated by God's Law and unforgiven by God's Gospel, it culminates in hellfire. What is the right way to handle anger? Go quickly to your brother and resolve it. Do not let the sun go down before blunting its sharp jabs into your soul. How can the fault you've suffered hurt you when you've been redeemed and set from sin? Beware of being the bigger sinner by holding a grudge and giving room for the devil in your life. That is not what Jesus wants for you. It is not good. He gives us a better way of mercy and forgiveness. *God, help me to trust You and stop being angry. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 119:41-48 I trust Your Word**

Faithful Christians believe the Lord has their best interests in mind. Even now our Lord Jesus is preparing our eternal dwellings. To create and strengthen hope, He gives us His Word of promise for salvation. He cares about our daily lives, so He blesses us with His Commandments. We are free to be thankful that our God cares about us so much that He desires to be involved in the nitty-gritty. He wants to make sure our prayers and faith toward Him are right and that our relations with our parents and neighbors are treated rightly. Thank God for his loving kindness that is deeply involved with every facet of our humble lives. *O Lord, help me love Your Words all the more. They are for my eternal and temporal good. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **Romans 6:3-11 The Old Man, the New Man**

The Old Man is that stubborn ass of our corrupted nature that will not let us go! It is the last gasp of a desperate attempt to deny its destiny until Christ crushes his head on the last day. A beautiful gift is that we are already free. In our Baptisms we have died with Christ and more than that we are raised. Now, the righteous live by faith. We trust that God has our best intentions in mind. He has sent Christ and His Spirit as a sign and token of His goodwill toward us. We have everything in Christ. This is what the Spirit daily drives into our soul. In Christ we have everything. In Christ we are free. *Heavenly Lord, in the midst of the changes and chances of this world keep my heart fixed on Christ. He is my Joy and Righteousness. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Exodus 20:1-17 The Catechism is Good For You**

The Catechism is good for us, both teaching the basics of Christian faith and for our daily use. The Commandments are a foundational stone for daily practicing the joy of faith in acts of righteousness. God knows the best righteous works. Therefore, let us put the best construction on what our leaders are saying and doing. Let us refrain from wantonness. Let us do all we can to protect and promote our neighbor's wellbeing, livelihood, and property. Let us not make our parents, pastors, or leaders angry. Where we have failed let us repent and gratefully receive absolution so that we live in joy again. *Dear Father, grant Your Word and Spirit that I might move from death to life this day by confession and absolution. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 19:16-30 Love Jesus More**

The Rich young man thought he was on the path to righteousness. Like Paul in Philippians 3, when he calls himself blameless according to the Law, the Rich Man says, "All these I have kept." But, sadly, unlike Paul, the Rich Man does not know the Law's full sting nor the righteousness of faith. He loves his riches more than Jesus. Like the Rich Man, we stumble in our desire for worldly comfort and riches. Instead of walking away from Jesus sorrowful, God be praised for the powerful work of the Spirit who has turned our hearts against possessions and toward Jesus, the true heavenly treasure that exceeds all treasure in heaven or on earth. *O Righteous Lord, You give me Everything in Christ. Help me trust His Word and renounce this world. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Ephesians 2:4-10 God Gives Good Gifts**

The greatest of all gifts which God has bestowed upon His Creation is His Son, Jesus. We are happy fools who were stumbling along in darkness until God Himself drew us to His treasure. We have been saved by God's Grace through our Faith in Jesus Christ. This has not been our doing. God's felicity has brought us to this place. Our happy predicament grants us the space and grace to now see our spouse, children, house, home, life, friends, neighbors, pastor, and all the world as good gifts ordered by God for our love and service. *O God, You have not been stingy with me. Help me not to be sinfully stingy with my neighbors in love and service. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 114 God is the Boss**

The devil tempts us into believing we're important. Heretics utter, "We are the masters of our domain. Let us burst our bondage to the Almighty!" When God flexes His muscles in His wrath, the world trembles. rock becomes water. Everything falls apart. What joy that He is present among His people to save them! It's time to stop making religion into what we think it should be. God is God. We are not. The Church isn't about our opinions and feelings. We are not the master. We are nothing in the presence of the Almighty, and yet He has made us His children by the adoption of grace. Let us be like Job who silenced himself under God's mighty hand. By listening and faith he obtained his blessing. *O Lord, stop my mouth. Let me not be dismayed. Amen.*

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